Message Text

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FOR: SECRETARY FROM UNDER SECRETARY DONALDSON

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG

SUBJECT: EXPORT CONTROLS ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

REF: STATE 243568, TO SEC 116

- 1. I AGREE WITH REFTEL THAT EMERGENCY PETROLEUM ALLOCATION ACT OF 1973 REQUIRES PRESIDENT TO CONTROL EXPORTS OF CRUDE OIL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS. WHETHER THIS IS DONE UNDER ALLOCATION ACT OR EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT DEPENDS IN MY VIEW ON WHICH STATUTE PROVIDES GREATER ADMINISTRATIVE FLEXIBILITY. ON BASIS PREVIOUS HISTORY IT WOULD SEEM THAT LATTER WOULD BE BETTER SUITED OUR PURPOSE. MOREOVER IF EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT WERE TRIGGERED ON BASIS FOREIGN POLICY DESITERATA, THIS SHOULD ENABLE US TO DEAL WITH ANY FOREIGN RELATIONS PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT ARISE.
- 2. I CANNOT SEE THAT IMPOSITION EXPORT CONTROLS AT THIS TIME WILL PRESENT US WITH UNMANAGEABLE PROBLEMS.
 A. OUR NORMAL OIL EXPORTS ARE MINISCULE AND CONSIST PRIMARILY OF SPECIALTY PRODUCTS OR PRODUCTS CONFIDENTIAL

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TRADED ALONG CANADIAN AND MEXICAN BORDERS.

- B. MOST OTHER COUNTRIES INCLUDING OTHER MAJOR CONSUMING COUNTRIES ALREADY HAVE EXPORT CONTROLS IN FORCE.
- C. BECAUSE OF OUR PRICE CONTROLS AT HOME WE COULD NOT TOLERATE SITUATION IN WHICH WE WERE SUDDENLY TO EXPAND EXPORTS IN RESPONSE HIGHER PRICES ABROAD.

 D. IMPOSTION EXPORT CONTROLS WILL NOT PRECLUDE OUR PARTICIPATION IN ANY POSSIBLE OECD SHARING ARRANGEMENT. OUR CONTRIBUTION TO ANY SUCH ARRANGEMENT WOULD COME FROM DIVERSION OF US IMPORTS TO OTHER DESTINATIONS RATHER EXPORTS FROM US.
- 3. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT IMPOSTION EXPORT CONTROLS COULD RAISE SPECIFIC IF MINOR PROBLEMS BECAUSE OF BASE PERIOD CHOSEN OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY SWITCHING ARRANGEMENTS, E.G. WITH CANADA. IT WOULD SEEM TO ME, HOWEVER, THAT LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF AILOCATION ACT AND PENDING NATIONAL ENERGY EMERGENCY ACT OF 1973 (SENATE VERSION OF WHICH EXPLICITLY AUTHORIZES INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS DEALING WITH TRADE IN FOSSIL FUELS) PROVIDE SUFFICIENT BASIS FOR HANDLING SUCH PROBLEMS. PROCEDURE OUTLINED PARA 5 REFTEL WITH EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO CONSULTATION WITH INDUSTRY AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WILL RESULT IN FLUSHING OUT ANY SUCH PROBLEMS IN ADVANCE AFFECT DATE EXPORT CONTROLS WHICH I UNDERSTAND WILL BE DECEMBER 27. 4. I RECOMMEND THAT YOU AUTHORIZE ACTING SECRETARY SEND LETTER TO DENT RE FOREIGN POLICY JUSTIFICATION FOR USE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION ACT IF IN JUDGEMENT LEGAL ADVISER USE OF THIS LEGAL AUTHORITY AS OPPOSED TO ALLOCATION ACT PREFERABLE FROM FOREIGN POLICY VIEWPOINT. I WOULD, HOWEVER, CONDITION OUR CONCURRENCE ON UNDER-STANDING THAT ANY SPECIFIC FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS WE MAY ENCOUNTER WILL BE DEALT WITH EXPEDITIOUSLY. DONALDSON

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